

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14025

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, JA, US
SUBJECT: US-JAPAN PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS: GEOGRAPHIC
ISSUES IN 33RD UNGA

REF: TOKYO 13942

1. MIDDLE EAST:
DURING US-JAPAN PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS ON AUGUST 1, MIDDLE
EAST AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL CHIBA SAID JAPAN'
APPROACH TO UN ISSUES RELATING TO MIDDLE EAST WOULD CONTINU
TO BE GOVERNED BY CONSIDERATION OF EFFECT ON BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIPS WITH MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES. FOLLOWING THE
1973 OIL SHOCK, RESOLUTION 242 BECAME THE BEDROCK ON WHICH
JAPAN BASED ITS UN POLICY TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST. HEAVY
PUBLIC INTEREST IN MIDDLE EAST ISSUES AS TREATED IN UN
CONTEXT PROVOKED STEADY STREAM OF DIET QUESTIONS, MOSTLY
REFLECTING PRO-ARAB BIAS. AS RESULT ALL JAPANESE VOTES IN
THE UN ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS WERE CLOSELY WATCHED AT HOM
AND IT WAS THEREFORE MOST DIFFICULT FOR JAPAN TO FAIL TO
SUPPORT ARAB POSITIONS ON WIDE VARIETY OF UN ISSUES. (SEE
REFTEL FOR DISCUSSION OF ZIONISM RESOLUTION.)

2. UN BUREAU DIRGEN OKAWA SAID FROM JAPANESE VIEWPOINT THE
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QUESTION OF PALESTINIANS WAS NOT ADEQUATELY TREATED IN
RES 242 AND SUGGESTED IT SHOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY ANOTHER
RESOLUTION WHICH ADDRESSED THE SPECIFIC PALESTINIAN QUESTIO
MAYNES SAID IF JAPAN WERE CONSIDERING SUBMITTING A SEPARAT
RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT, U.S. WOULD WANT TO CONSULT
CLOSELY TO AVOID ANY ACTION WHICH COULD UPSET THE DELICATE
BALANCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION IN THE UN. MAYNES NOTE

POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL SESSION ON MIDDLE EAST, WHICH HE THOUGHT WOULD NOT HAVE BENEFICIAL AFFECT ON PEACE PROCESS SINCE TONE OF ANY SUCH SESSION WOULD PROBABLY BE SET BY RADICALS. U.S. EFFORTS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE DIRECTED AT INSURING THAT SADAT WAS NOT WEAKENED, ISRAELI POSITIONS NOT MADE MORE RIGID, AND PEACE PROCESS NOT IMPERILED.

3. AFRICA: OKAWA SAID JAPAN HOPED THAT PROGRESS ON NAMIBIAN PROBLEM WOULD SET PRECEDENT FOR RESOLUTION OF RHODESIAN QUESTION. OKAWA ADDED THAT JAPAN NOW CAREFULLY INVESTIGATES POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS AND RECENTLY STRENGTHENED MEASURES TO INSURE RHODESIAN CHROME DID NOT ENTER JAPAN. CHIBA, IN CHARACTERISTICALLY BLUNT FORMULATION, SAID JAPANESE UN POLICY TOWARD AFRICA WAS FIG LEAF TO COVER IMPORTANT JAPANESE TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH WAS HIGHER THAN TRADE WITH REST OF BLACK AFRICA. MAYNES NOTED THAT WHILE U.S. WAS TAKING ACTION TO TRY TO INFLUENCE CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA(AND AS A RESULT USG WAS FREQUENTLY CASTIGATED BY SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS), WE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT FURTHER ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NECESSARILY BE PRODUCTIVE, AND THIS WAS NOT OUR GOAL.

4. KOREA: ON KOREA, IT WAS AGREED THAT MEETING OF CORE GROUP WOULD BE USEFUL TO REVIEW PROSPECTS FOR ANY ATTENTION TO KOREA IN UPCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IT WAS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THAT MEETING TAKE PLACE IN PRIVATE WITHOUT ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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PUBLICITY. WHILE RESULTS OF NAM BELGRADE MEETING WOULD OFFER SOME CLUES AS TO DPRK ATTITUDE TOWARD PRESSING FOR KOREA ITEM, IT WAS UNLIKELY DPRK WOULD HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO GO AHEAD. MANSFIELD

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